

PIONEER EXHIBITOR DIES

Halifax, N.S.—Narcisse V. Gastonguay, pioneer motion picture operator, passed away suddenly at his home here recently. In partnership with the late Mr. Keith of Boston, Mr. Gastonguay operated the old Halifax Nickel. He later took over control of the Orpheus Theatre, operating both houses for several years. He introduced talking pictures in the Maritimes, at the Orpheus. He retired from active business about five years ago. He is survived by his widow, a daughter, Mrs. James D. Sadler, and a grandson, James D. Sadler, Jr.

J. J. FITZGIBBONS BETTER

Toronto, Ont. — J. J. Fitzgibbons, General Manager of Famous Players Canadian Corp., has returned to Toronto from Rochester, Minn., where he was undergoing treatment at St. Mary's Hospital. Mr. Fitzgibbons is reported as feeling fine, but will be out of circulation until the latter part of July.

Weston Exhibitor Heads Anti-Protection League

Toronto, Ont.—Under the leadership of J. O. Scott, Weston exhibitor, and booker for several other Ontario theatres, a new organization called the Anti-Protection League has been formed here. League has requested Famous Players to meet the League's committee to set up conciliation boards for each distribution territory, representatives of F-P and the distributors to constitute 50% of the representation, and the independents the other 50%. Those associated with Scott include Nat Taylor, W. Brady, H. Firestone, H. Ginsler, M. Goodman, G. Lester, H. Alexander, H. Kay, M. Axler, H. Rotenberg and Mrs. Stella Falk.

Interstate Commerce Committee Sends Neely Bill To Senate

Washington, D.C. — The Senate Interstate Commerce Committee, by the overwhelming majority of 15 to 3, reported favorably on the Neely Block-Booking Bill. This action gives Senator Neely, sponsor of the measure, the "go-ahead" signal to present the bill to the Senate. Those committee members actually voting on the Bill only totalled 9, but Senator Neely presented nine proxies in favor of the measure. Despite the current government drive against the Film Industry, observers believe it most unlikely that the Bill will ever be put in force. They state that even if it should pass the Senate, the House of Representatives would toss it out, as before.



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Will Hays, George Schaefer, Nicholas Schenck, Harry Warner, Meet with U.S.

Government Officials in a Series of "Round Table" Discussions

Shooting The Stars

Cary Grant, who recently completed his role opposite Carole Lombard and Kay Francis in RKO Radio's "Memory of Love", has been signed to star in that company's production of "Passport to Life"; Garson Kanin will direct... work began this week on "Nitotchka", at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, with Greta Garbo facing the cameras for the first time in two years; Melvyn Douglas appears opposite the star, with Ernst Lubitsch directing... "Falling Stars" is the new title for the 20th Century-Fox Technicolor production formerly known as "Hollywood Cavalcade"; it co-stars Alice Faye and Don Ameche... H. B. Warner has been added to the large cast supporting Jean Arthur and James Stewart in Frank Capra's Columbia picture, "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington"; Edward Arnold, Guy Kibbee, Thomas Mitchell, Claude Rains, Eugene Pallette, Astrid Allwyn, Beulah Bondi and Ruth Donnelly are also featured... John Justin, newcomer to the screen, has just been signed to a seven-year contract by Alexander Korda, and given the role of the Prince in Korda's forthcoming United Artists production, "The Thief of Bagdad"... Maxie Rosenbloom has been assigned to a featured part in "The Return of Dr. X", now

before the cameras at Warner Bros., with Wayne Morris, Humphrey Bogart, Lya Lys, Rosemary Lane and Dennis Morgan heading the cast... 20th Century-Fox has purchased the best-selling novel "Drums Along the Mohawk", and will star Henry Fonda and Claudette Colbert in the film production... Alan Mowbray and Sally Blane have been signed by Sol Lesser for top roles in "Way Down South", Bob Breen's new starring picture for RKO Radio release... "Winter Carnival", Walter Wanger's first production for United Artists' 1939-40 program, has been completed with Ann Sheridan and Richard Carlson in the starring roles; also in the cast are Helen Parrish, Robert Armstrong, James Corner, Marsha Hunt and Alan Baldwin... Frieda Inescourt and Gordon Oliver are the first two players to be engaged for Columbia's new drama, "A Woman Is the Judge", which will star Otto Kruger and Rochelle Hudson... John Payne and Jane Wyman will have the leading roles in a new Warner Bros. picture entitled "Kid Nightingale"; further casting will be announced shortly... "Happiest Man on Earth", Harper's Magazine story by Albert Maltz, has been purchased by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer for screen production.

Stop! Look! Listen!

In one of the largest fires the city of Fredericton, N.B. has witnessed in recent years, the Gaiety Theatre, owned by W. W. O. Fenety, was completely destroyed. House, which was a total loss, will be rebuilt... Due to juvenile trouble in Chatham, Tilbury and surrounding districts, no children under 16 years are being admitted to theatres without their parents. This law has always been on the statutes, but not strictly enforced... Pat Hogan, popular Branch Manager at Saint John, N.B., for Paramount Pictures, was the recipient of glad tidings en route to the company convention at California. His wife gave birth to a bouncing baby girl. Mother, child... and dad all doing well... "Of Human Bondage", co-starring Leslie Howard and Bette Davis, will be re-issued by RKO Radio Pictures, Jules Levy, general sales manager announced this week. A new pressbook and a complete new line-up of accessories will be made available to exhibitors... Bob Eves, popular manager of the Eglinton Theatre, Toronto, motored down to Philadelphia this week to watch the U. S. Open Golf Championships; Bill Bradbury, Bob's capable assistant, is in charge during the manager's absence... It will soon be wedding bells for Mayor N. W. Mason of New Glasgow, N.S., Dean of theatre men in the Maritimes, who in the very near future will wed Miss Jeanette MacGillivray, also of New Glasgow... Despite public interest aroused by the two major submarine disasters of recent date, Warner Bros. have decided against re-issuing their successful production, "Submarine D-1"; studio considers it unpatronizing to capitalize on national disaster... Congratulations to Producer Alexander Korda and Filmactress Merle Oberon, who were married at Antibes, French Riviera, last week-end; this cancelled reports that they had been married in Montreal, Canada, earlier in the year... Mitchell Franklin, of the Franklin-Herschorn circuit of Maritimes theatres, George Heiber, booker of the Saint John branch of United Artists, and Bill Guss, salesman out of the Saint John office for Regal, recently motored to Toronto on their holidays. Messrs. Franklin and Guss also visited Ottawa and Montreal on their return home... Thieves got away with the safe of the Plaza Theatre, Tilbury, Ont., recently, without leaving a trace. Safe contained week-end's receipts... Directors of Loew's London Theatres, Ltd., are considering reorganization of the capital structure, B. V. McCrimmon, secretary, states in the notice accompanying the dividend of 17½ cents per share on the preferred stock... Howard Schedewitz, manager of the Lyric, Kitchener, assisted at the opening of the new Strand, Tillsonburg, last week... Negotiations are underway for the reconstruction and reopening this summer of the Broadway Theatre, Haileybury, Ont.; David Korman, Englehart business man owns the building, while the Allen interests hold the lease... Morris Milligan, Canadian General Manager, and Jack Hunter, Toronto Branch Manager, are attending the Paramount Sales Convention, being held in Los Angeles; before they left, Morris and Jack were busy getting telephone numbers from Haskell Masters of United Artists, who recently returned from his company's convention in the same city... Errol Flynn, Warner Bros. star, has turned producer, signing to produce a series of twelve 2-reel sports subjects, in which Howard Hill, his partner, will star; films are devoted to hunting fish and game with bow and arrow... In line with its policy of changing programmes one day ahead of the Imperial Theatre, Loew's, Toronto, now changes its attractions on Wednesdays.

Trans - Canada Showings

TORONTO

IMPERIAL

"Only Angels Have Wings" (Columbia), starring Jean Arthur and Cary Grant.

LOEW'S

2nd week. "The Hardy's Ride High" (M-G-M), starring Lewis Stone, Mickey Rooney, Fay Holden and Cecilia Parker.

MADISON

"Stagecoach" (Wanger-U.A.), starring Claire Trevor and John Wayne.

UPTOWN

"Juarez" (Warners), starring Paul Muni, Bette Davis and Brian Aherne.

MONTREAL

CAPITOL

"Lucky Night" (M-G-M), starring Myrna Loy and Robert Taylor, and "Women in the Wind" (Warners), starring Kay Francis.

LOEW'S

"Confessions of a Nazi Spy" (Warners), starring Edward G. Robinson and Francis Lederer.

ORPHEUM

2nd week. "Captain Fury" (Hal Roach-U.A.), starring Brian Aherne and Victor McLaglen, and "Strange Boarders" (British), with Tom Walls.

PALACE

"Rose of Washington Square" (20th Century-Fox), starring Tyrone Power, Alice Faye and Al Jolson.

WINNIPEG

CAPITOL

"Dark Victory" (Warners), starring Bette Davis, with George Brent.

GAIETY

"Pygmalion" (M-G-M), starring Leslie Howard and Wendy Hiller.

GARRICK

"Prison Without Bars" (London Films-U.A.), starring Corinne Luchaire.

LYCEUM

"Sergeant Madden" (M-G-M), starring Wallace Beery, and "Jones Family in Hollywood" (20th Century-Fox).

REGINA

CAPITOL

"The Hardys Ride High" (M-G-M), starring Mickey Rooney, Lewis Stone, Cecilia Parker and Fay Holden.

METROPOLITAN

"Calling Dr. Kildare" (M-G-M), starring Lew Ayres and Lionel Barrymore, and "Adventures of Jane Arden" (Warners), with Rosella Towne.

ROXY

"The Crowd Roars" (M-G-M), starring Robert Taylor and Maureen O'Sullivan, and "Double Danger" (RKO Radio), with Preston Foster.

REX

"Damaged Goods" (G-N).

VANCOUVER

DUNBAR

"Brother Rat" (Warners), starring Wayne Morris and Priscilla Lane, and "Danger Patrol" (RKO Radio), with Preston Foster.

FRASER

"Algiers" (Wanger-U.A.), starring Charles Boyer and Hedy Lemarr, and "Little Adventure" (Columbia), with Edith Fellows.

KINGSWAY

"Cowboy and the Lady" (Goldwyn-U.A.), starring Gary Cooper and Merle Oberon, and "No Time To Marry" (Columbia), with Richard Arlen.

PLAZA

"Captain Fury" (Hal Roach-U.A.), starring Brian Aherne and Victor McLaglen.